

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

All inquiries and communications addressed to The Times-Dispatch will receive prompt attention. This department will appear each Monday, and contributions or suggestions will be welcomed.

Facts for Farmers, Stock Breeders, Poultry Raisers, Orchardists, Truckers and Gardeners—Queries and Answer

Bureau of In-
for All Who
Soil or Are In-
in Making Homes

WORN-OUT LANDS

Your land rich enough, and is it becoming as such as you wish? This is my opinion, is the most important object the farmer has to deal with. Poor lands mean poor crops, poor stock, a poor farmer—and a poor State.

The farmer must depend upon one crop to support his family and buy his meat, flour, hay, horses and many other things, sooner or later will come to grief. It matters not what the reason is, the price of the one article is this one-crop system is what is the matter with our farmers. We need to diversify our crops more.

We need to keep more live stock, to raise more hogs and mules, sheep, cattle, hogs and other live stock, to raise more hay, grain and leguminous crops. Those sections where the farmers raise their own necessities have the most prosperous.

We need to fence our farms, and must do so. If we keep live stock, we must keep live stock if we expect to have manure to go on our crops. Without manure I believe it almost impossible to get our farms into a high state of cultivation.

By the keeping of live stock, the farmer can get the best of both worlds. The farmer can get the best of both worlds. The farmer can get the best of both worlds. The farmer can get the best of both worlds.

We need to keep more brood mares to raise our own horses. We cannot afford to be paying from \$50 to \$100 a pair for horses and mules; every time you buy a pair out of the State you are making some other farm rich and putting money into some other man's pocket.

CONTROLLING A SHEEP PEST

There exists a good deal of difference in opinion as to the particular "fly" responsible for the "maggoting" of sheep. It is popularly supposed to be caused by the common "blow fly" or "sheep fly," but it is, however, of more interest to the entomologist than to the sheep man, and whatever its name and variety, we know at least something about the circumstances under which the attack occurs.

We know something, too, about the method of preventing attack. If we can always persuade farmers to put in lime, plaster and other things, we can save many agents that will completely destroy the maggot.

Two things that particularly favor the attacks are: (1) that such trouble, as is caused by the maggot, is not a new thing, but has been known to exist for many years; and (2) that the maggot is not a new thing, but has been known to exist for many years.

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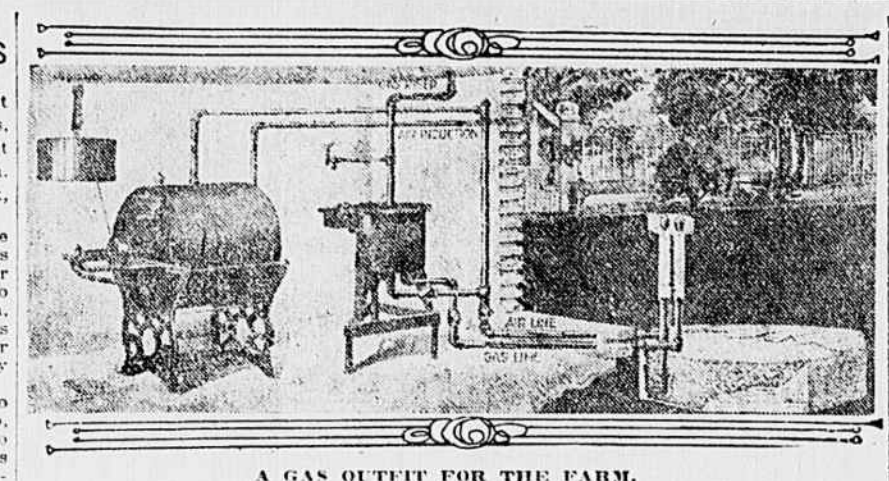
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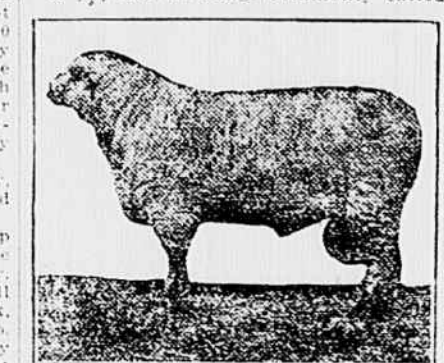
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A GAS OUTFIT FOR THE FARM.

phur and carbolic acid is very useful. There are a large number of agents that will destroy the maggots, but most of them are of a poisonous character. In some districts shepherds carry with them what they call a "fly-stone." This is merely a good-sized lump of perchloride of mercury or corrosive sublimate. The deadly poison is generally wrapped in a piece of flannel and enclosed in a leather pouch. On detecting a sheep that is struck with a fly, the shepherd pulls out his pouch, expectorates on this "fly-stone" and rubs it among the maggots. There is no doubt about its killing them, and as we have never known of any trouble due to its use, or accidents arising out of its possession, we cannot deprecate its use on that account, but the application of such a powerful corrosive is unnecessary severe on the sheep.

Perchloride of mercury is a splendid antiseptic (probably the best we have), and is calculated to keep the wound healthy after the destruction of the maggots. It is equally effective, and quite as efficient in respect to producing asepsis. A popular dressing, commonly called "fly oil," is Perchloride of mercury, 1 ounce; spirits of turpentine, 1 1/2 ounces; boiling water, 8 ounces. This should be prepared by a chemist.



The wool should be clipped from over the back, sides and neck, as to expose the maggots, and a little of the solution poured in among them, care being taken to involve them all in the wetting. After this it is a good plan to immerse the sheep in a tank of water, or to pour water over its back. This will help to remove the maggots, and a pair of fine forceps may be used for this purpose. It is desirable to at once get rid of the dead larvae, because if they remain in the bodies and retard healthy healing if allowed to remain.

Fortunes Made and Lost.

Two people of good habits started in the dairy business twenty-five years ago, the one with nothing and the other with a \$20-a-day farm, paid for. At the present time the former has a large herd, and good buildings, besides a bank account, all of which was made from his dairy herd. The latter, through poor judgment, guess work, and misapplication of the best methods, lost the farm he already had. The purchasing of large amounts of highly priced concentrates was one great factor in this failure.

Another man, owning a farm of 120 acres, kept twenty cows and produced from two to four cans of milk, the proprietor and his hired men doing the work. The profits were so small that the farm was finally lost. It was purchased by a man who kept three hundred and sixty-three cows on the same land, and produced thirty cans of milk during the flush of the season. The milk was finally lost, shortly after the loss of the first farm. This is an example of brain fertility, and not soil fertility, for the soil was the same.

Flies Found to breed in Winter.

Flies breed in winter as well as in summer, says the Journal of the American Medical Association. The statement is based on the fact that on January 1, 1915, flies were found breeding in a heap of manure, covered with tar paper and rubbish, though the temperature had been down near zero for long before. The manure doubtless had supplied the necessary heat, and this was retained by the covering material.

This explains the often-heard question, "Where do all the flies come from?" It has long been known that adult flies survive the winter, hibernating in cellars and similar places, but that they actually breed in cold weather is a feature rather annoying to contemplate. The moral seems to be that manure should be as carefully guarded in the winter as in summer.

It can readily be seen what this means for the gasoline industry, which has suffered more than any other from the gasoline situation.

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GAS FOR FARM HOMES

Time was when to leave the city or town and seek a country home meant to give up most of the comforts of life and revert back to first principles, water from a spring or well and a drink from a gourd. Heat came from a fireplace or wood stove and cooking was done over a washbasin or tub; light from candles or kerosene lamps. Cold halls and bedrooms in winter and a house full of flies in summer were the rule. One by one the modern conveniences have been overcome, but there still remained two things which the city dweller possessed that excited the envy of the farmer—electric lights and city gas. Probably if he could take his choice most farmers would select city gas rather than electricity on account of its wider usefulness, the beautiful white mantle light of gas being more restful to the eye than the electric light, and the fact that electricity has to be paid for, while gas is not so expensive.

The Times-Dispatch told of the adaptation of electricity to farm purposes, and that gas is also available to the farmer. It is not a makeshift gas that will light only. The up-to-date Southern farmer wants to go the whole hog or none. Summer cooking by gas, quick water heating for laundry and bath and dairy purposes, the cheerful blaze of the gas log to warm and dry his feet after the hard day's labor and the gas steam radiator to take the chill out of his bedroom, look as attractive to him as to anybody, and it is gas as this that is referred to when we say to the farmer and his wife, "Your emancipation is at hand."

The gasoline gas machine is not a new thing. It has been made by several firms for nearly a half-century, and at the close of the last century, the only gas available for lighting and cooking in the absence of city gas. It has, however, been so seriously handicapped for the past fifteen years by the gasoline situation as to have nearly driven from the market. Prior to the advent of the gasoline engine and the automobile, the problem with coal oil producers was to find a market for the gasoline which they were producing in excess of their own needs. The solution was to use it for lighting and cooking, and this was the only market for it.

Every garden should have an herb border. Many of the herbs are ornamental as well as useful. When treating cattle or other domestic animals for lice, bear in mind that it is just as necessary to clean up and disinfect the stables as to treat the affected animals.

There is no danger of an overrich soil for asparagus. In fact, this crop can only be grown profitably on very rich land.

Loss by Lightning. Hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of property is destroyed every year by lightning. The farmer is the principal loser. There is a reason, lightning seldom strikes in a city, because the multitudes of wires, metal roofs and smokestacks, steel buildings, etc., are a safety valve on electrical conditions, and few bolts ever discharge. Out in the country there is nothing to equalize the electrical conditions of the air, and it accumulates until it goes to work with a crash, usually through the most conspicuous conductor available—a tree, a barn or a wire fence.

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is proof against being damaged by a stroke. Barns are usually larger and higher than the houses and conduct the electric shock from the clouds to the earth. The nature of the contents make destruction by fire almost certain before anything can be saved.

Advice to Boys. Don't be careless of your personal appearance, as it counts for much, either for or against you. Not that you must always wear expensive clothing, but the little details are important. Clean hands and face, combed hair, and brushed clothes do not cost a cent.

Plant Trees. It is a noble deed to perform an act that you are not sure you will ever get to benefit from, while you live; but are sure that for years after you are gone, others will be getting benefit from your labor. He who plants a tree, blesses men, for sometimes a hundred years.

DEMAND FOR WHEAT HAS NOT YET APPEARED

Much Grain Will Be Forced on Markets of World and Lower Prices Are in Sight

CHICAGO, June 27.—The demand for new wheat has yet to put in its appearance and conditions point to still lower prices for this grain. A great deal of new wheat will be forced upon the market of the world and conditions are most likely to favor the latter side. The harvesting of wheat is moving rapidly northward, and already considerable of this grain has been shipped from the thrasher, showing without a doubt, that many producers of this grain are in need of money, and that as rapidly as the wheat is in condition for movement it will be sent to points of distribution. The harvest of the season is complete, and the export demand for cash wheat is the buying power is now centered in one concern, and it is feared that the price will be made by the buying side.

There are some in the wheat trade of Chicago who believe that prices are likely to do better. It is said that at least two of the larger speculators who were rampant bears on the wheat market, and who were selling the side after having taken profits on an enormous line of wheat which was put out some time ago at a much higher level than now prevails. James A. Patton, said to be friendly to wheat, and W. L. Linn is also said to be friendly to that grain.

The condition of the growing corn crop in Kansas is said to be the lowest in twenty years. This condition is due to a lack of territory, and the corn belt has yet to be replanted, and unless this replanting is accomplished within a short time it will be too late to escape the frosts of next fall.

Receipts of hogs at leading Western markets have been somewhat disappointing. It will not cost much and will be a great saving both in worry and in loss of profit.

Tea has been used as a beverage in China more than 2,000 years.

The dairyman who sells cream only should keep a good number of pigs to consume the skimmed milk. They will make a handsome profit at the end of the year.

A bed composed of castor plants in the middle, then tall-growing canna, and a row of elephant ears, Caladiums, will give a tropical effect.

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American securities to provide means to invest. The Rothschilds' loan through the Morgan bank, which makes provision for payment of commercial obligations of the French government in this country, and transfers high-grade American railway bonds to this center as collateral. Gold imports continue to flow in after brief cessation.

Crop prospects, May railroad earnings and reports of trade expansion kept up favorable impressions.

WEEKLY COTTON REVIEW

NEW ORLEANS, June 27.—The trading of the week was against values in the cotton market. Selling was stimulated by favorable crop and weather reports and by expectations of bearish accounts and by the comparatively large bureau reports this coming week, while the first July notices caused much liquidation of long cotton. The close was at the loss of 21 to 23 points. Easier spot markets and increased offerings helped to work against the price of futures, and the bearish belief that that pressure to sell spot cotton in the immediate future was induced by first-hand knowledge of favorable crop development.

Steady influences were constant covering of short cotton and the heavy spot sales in Liverpool, the large mill takings and the comparatively large decrease in the visible supply. This week the trade will be mainly occupied with the government reports Thursday on climate and acreage. Sentiment seems more bearish than bullish in regard to the coming reports. The majority of traders look for condition figures at least as high as last month's percentage of 80, while not a few expect a drop to 70 or 75. A year ago the condition was 75.6, and in the big crop year of 1911 it was 88.2.

SCHOOLS.

VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE
"The West Point of the South"

Collegiate and technical courses combined with rigid discipline of an army post. B. S. and B. A. degrees conferred in course. Virginia Cadets tuition free.

Lexington, Va. Gen. E. W. NICHOLS, Supt.

EDICAL COLLEGE OF VIRGINIA

Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy
New building completely equipped. For catalogue and information apply to W. McCauley, Secretary, 1120 East City Street, Richmond, Va.

SUMMER RESORTS—Maryland

WESTERN MARYLAND RAILWAY
BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAIN
Hotel and Boarding House List Now Ready. Call Mailed Upon Application. C. F. STEWART, G. P. A. Baltimore, Md.

SUMMER RESORTS—Atlantic City

Hotel Shoreham
Virginia Avenue and Beach.
A modern hotel with every convenience. Private beach, swimming, tennis, etc. Splendid table, open surroundings. Patronize extensively by Virginians. Rates, \$1.50 up weekly; \$2.00 up daily. Book early. W. B. COTTEN, Manager.

DENNIS

Atlantic City, N. J.
A thoroughly modern, superior location. A recognized standard of excellence. Capacity 600. WALTER J. BUZBY.

KENTON HALL

On beach, at Belmont Avenue, Chesapeake Bay. Unobstructed ocean view, running water, tennis, etc.; capacity 800. THOS. KENT.

CLARENDON HOTEL

Virginia Avenue, Near Beach.
Favorite hotel with cold and summer guests. Private baths, rooms en suite, with running water, private free booklet. MONROE HUTCHINS.

NEW HOTEL MERION—Fireproof.
Vermont Avenue and Beach; capacity, 300. Very moderate rates for the comforts, appointments and table of the largest hotel in the city. Special weekly, large, cool, prettily furnished rooms. Booklet, C. B. PRETTYMAN.

THE WILTSHIRE HOTEL

Virginia Avenue and Beach.
Capacity 350; private baths, running water in rooms, elevator, fine porches, etc.; music. Special \$12.00 up weekly; \$2.00 up daily; open all year; booklet; auto at train. SAMUEL ELLIS.

SUMMER RESORTS—Virginia

WINCHESTER, VA.
YE WINCHESTER INN
Wide porch, National Highway, and ideal situation in 14 acre beautiful lawn and old shade 200 feet covered porch; accommodations 200; three floors; modern kitchen; free from noise and traffic; smoke and dirt; guests; automobile, saddle horses, fine dance floor, instructors, tennis, etc. Send for literature and booklet. S. B. PERKINS, Owner and Proprietor.

Orkney Springs Hotel and Baths.
Orkney Springs, Va. Open June 1. Beautiful mountains; always cool; elevation 2,000 feet; natural sulphur springs; swimming, tennis, etc. Restorative waters, equal Carlsbad, Germany, for nervousness, poor blood, general debility, rheumatism, kidney and stomach troubles. Free amusement, dancing, pool, tennis, croquet; good table; reasonable rates; cap. 400; booklet. H. C. Carter, Prop.

ELKTON HOTEL, Elkton, Va.
On Shenandoah River, fishing, boating, recreation. Location: surrounded by mountains. Cool; breezy. High ceilings. Electric light, hot water, etc. Free of charge. J. A. Graham, Manager.

AFTON HOUSE

Opened June 1st. Owing to its elevation, the dry, salubrious climate, the absence of dew and the constant breeze, it is one of the most healthful of all the Virginia resorts.

Address MRS. JAMES R. GOODLOE, Afton, Va.